



Message from Minister



Mr. Mohammed Osman Abbas
Minister of Finance and Economic

Kassala State is a middle State of the three eastern States in Sudan. Kassala is famous with its mountains especially Al Taka, Totalail as well as Al Gash seasonal river and its ever green Sawagi. For that, Kassala City is one of the most potential cities in Sudan for tourism activities.

The State has been affected by large inflow of refugees during the war time in Ethiopia before the emergence of Eritrea and during the war between Eritrea and Ethiopia afterwards. In addition, the internal violence during the struggle between the Sudanese ended in the eastern region with the signing of the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement (ESPA) in October 2006.

In those periods, Kassala received many aid agencies, but in 2010 as State Minister I witnessed the negotiations with JICA Sudan.

JICA's approach with deep look for needs of Kassala is different, and we agreed to implement this project together.

The project covers five important clusters in Kassala including some pilot activities.

Kassala State Government and the people of Kassala, have a pleasure to greet the Japanese government efforts in Kassala and to welcome JICA office and JICA team in Kassala.

With the help of JICA, the State Government commits to implement this project successfully and sustainably so that we can improve public services to the people in Kassala and facilitate the development of our State.

Once again, I would like to present our unlimited thanks for Japanese government, JICA and welcome.

K-TOP project background

Since the signing of the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement (ESPA) in 2006, there has been a high hope for peace and development in Eastern Sudan (Kassala, Gedaref and Red Sea States).

The State Government of Kassala requested, through the Higher Council for Decentralized Governance of the Government of National Unity, Japanese technical assistance to the Capacity Development Project for the Provision of Services for Basic Human Needs in Kassala State (hereinafter referred as the K-TOP project) in 2010, and K-TOP project has conducted the preparation phase from October 2010 to March 2011, and launched the implementation phase from May 2011.

K-TOP Project Objective:

K-TOP Project develops capacity of the State Government of Kassala to provide public services of management / planning, water, agriculture and livelihood, health and vocational training.

However, the provision of training is not the only measure for capacity development; K-TOP project includes pilot activities that will present the tangible benefit of peace to local communities where they can enjoy dividends from these activities. In addition, the pilot activities will strengthen practical application of the result of training program that they have learned.

K-TOP Project will contribute to the capacity development of weakened state government after conflict as well as respond to the urgent needs of the residents and communities through improvement of the local economy and social condition.

The project plan to contribute to both human security and peace building at the same time.

K-TOP Project Period:

May 2011 – April 2014 (3 years).



Mr. Kiyofumi Tanaka K-TOP
project team leader



Training In Japan



**Mr. Gamal Mohammed Al Hassen,
Director of Developing planning and**

Kaizen training in Japan:

We learned a lot from the training course on Kaizen approach in Japan.

Kaizen make employees to think always and make suggestions, it can assist not only individuals, but also groups.

Kaizen can improve self-satisfaction of employees.



**Mr. Abdul Hakim Director General of Ministry of
Agriculture and Irrigation**

As soon as we put our feet in Haneda (Tokyo International Airport) we observe that influence of modern technology on peoples' behavior and "punctuality" of the time and highly arranged and well planned everything (at what time we will be in Japan. - our Journey from airport to JICA Center in Tokyo).

Everything has been organized very well. We started our activities from next day by visiting Ministry of Agriculture where we met international cooperation director who explained to us Agriculture Policy of Japan in securing grains specially rice by production & import. In Hokkaido we



**The participants received their Kaizen
training certificates from JICA Osaka Office**

We need to be aware that there are always problems and we have to think how to solve these problems that make us to reach the feeling that we have achieved something useful and worth to live for.

Kaizen is the bottom up philosophy; we can adapt it in planning in Kassala.



**Kassala State Agriculture Team and
the Japanese Experts**

discover that Japan not only industrial country but also they have a lot of agricultural production ranging from rice to potato up to animal production. Extension services mainly offered by local government but JA (farmer's association) and companies they have a role, too.

At the end of our two weeks visit to Japan we know many things about agriculture policy and extension services in Japan and how farmers' association (JA) play a role in marketing of their Agriculture Products

Meeting with JICA authorities in Tokyo and Sudan Embassy give our trip nice spices.

Next time I will write more details about this journey.

Agriculture Cluster



Promoting chisel plough to increase productivity for small scale farmers (above)

K-TOP with TTEA (Technology Transfer and Extension Administration) has introduced sets of machineries to the small-scale farmer's group in two villages in Wad El Helew. Despite below average rainfall in the season of 2011, sorghum production were significantly higher with newly introduced chisel plough than with ordinary plough using wide level disk. Chisel plough has high potential to increase productivity of sorghum in the rain-fed area. It is expected to disseminate idea of using chisel plough as a tool for water harvesting.

Food processing trials in marketing fields:

Potato is considered as one of the promising crops in Kassala state. It has been studied for years to introduce suitable varieties through on-farm trials. K-TOP and TTEA have also established demonstration farm in Sawagi district to deal with some extension problems in potato production. In parallel, JICA experts started to tackle with activities for food processing in order to solve post harvesting issues in potato. Pictures shown below are one of the 'kitchen experiments' conducted during the Eid holidays. Ingredients of Sudanese traditional food 'Tamie' were mixed with smashed potato and chickpea. It has been offered as new dish with soft and light texture. Bon appétit!





Water Cluster



Geophysical Exploration in Northern Kassala

K-TOP intervention in water cluster includes an exploration and development of groundwater resource in northern Kassala. The exploration of groundwater had been done by adopting Geophysical

technique mainly resistivity survey to find the potential zones of water.

The work focused in the areas of Macali, Gammam and Degine. Where people suffers from acute shortage of water.

Those areas are selected by State Water Corporation (SWC).

The main objective is to provide the target areas with adequate water supply.



Training of Basic Financial Management in State Water Corporation

Improving basic financial management is one of the core activities of K-TOP project for State Water Corporation.

The objective of this training is to improve the skills of the SWC account units staff, a master managerial

accounting skills. The training covers understanding uses and sources of cash in operation, investment and finance, analyzing financial reports and statements (Income Statements, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement), journalizing and accounting process. This training course started in Jun 2011 and the participants were from State Water Corporation, New Halfa and Aroma.



The project staff explains how to manage equipment to the State Water Corporation staff who is in charge of procured equipment management. Also the project conducted a training of Equipment Management to the store keepers of the East SWC office. The project provided two



pickup trucks, 1 PC training room with desks and chairs, 5 laptops, 5 desktop computers, workshop hand tools and heavy machines such as 2 crane trucks, 2 backhoe loaders of different sizes, and 8 movable electric generators {61k}.



Vocational Training Cluster



Mr. Mubarak Abdurrahman, Director of KVTC

Really I would like to appreciate the Ministry of International Cooperation and JICA on their interest in the Vocational Training Center Since from the end of GTZ project in 1997 we didn't receive any support from the aid agencies.

JICA already started their support to the KVTC according to the agreement between the Sudanese and Japanese governments on the Capacity Development Project for the Provision of Services for Basic Human Needs since Oct 2010.



Women's training room

The project has conducted a lot of training and provided a lot of equipment tools to our new sections of general electricity, car electric and welding. The project also provided the opportunity for Vocational Training Center to train the women in food processing and making dresses.

The project prepared two kinds of TOT training inside and outside Sudan that is in Japan and Malaysia for the KVTC instructors.



Labour Market Survey

The Labour Market Survey is one of the important activities that are conducted by the project in Kassala Vocational Training Center. This survey aims to identify the needs of the training courses of KVTC, to track down vocational training graduates, and to establish employment outcomes of the vocational training. In short this survey is conducted to have a full picture of labor market in Kassala This survey covers all the places where the labor force can be found in

the city (professionally and literally). Important information is collected from teachers and students of primary and secondary schools, KVTC trainees, employees, employers, and jobseekers. The Survey is still ongoing. The collected data will be used for improving KVTC curriculum.



Study visits in Khartoum

In November 2011 the K-TOP together with Kassala Vocational Training Center visited Vocational Training Center in Khartoum to study and make comparison with Kassala and other centers.

Health Cluster



Development of VMW In-Service Training Handbook

In September, 2011, the Health team, K-TOP worked with Reproductive Health (RH) Department, Kassala State Ministry of Health to develop the first draft of "In-Service Training Handbook". Dr. Ali Adam Mohamed and Dr. Tahani Khidir Salman of RH Department contributed greatly to this development in their busy schedules. In addition, teachers at Kassala Midwifery School and health visitors as a user played important roles to make the material user-friendly.

This handbook helps all trainings to be at the same level in order to improve MCH services for mothers and babies and will be distributed to all Health Visitors soon.



PC training of reproductive health data

Credible data is indispensable to reach our activity goal for improvement of maternal and neonatal health status. This data shows decision makers/partners the accurate situation of women and neonatal babies and let them decide appropriate intervention.

The health team of K-TOP conducted the PC training of RH data for statisticians in RH Department and local health offices in Girba and Wad El Helew. This training supported the plan of the RH Department to strengthen the capacity of the data management by using a computer.



Planning Cluster

Civil Service Database

On February 2011, the State Government of Kassala requests JICA experts to provide a new computerized database of the Civil Service for the management for Civil Service Department (Ministry of Finance and Economic) to ease the process of strategic planning of Kassala State.

So that the project set a plan to establish the Database in the Civil Service Department to ease human resource management development by adequately record and plan human resource development and training.



Mr. Isam Iz Al Din
Director General of Civil Service

We always imagined that this program will not be executed, until we found such a considerable serious interests, efforts, and keen diligence of the authority of JICA K-TOP project.

This rejoiced us pretty much, especially when we received the equipment's and all the requirements to perform the program according to the stages and periods of time compromised.

The Strategic plans for the Civil Service included certain database of Kassala State.

To categories the people's competences in quantity, type and qualification level for making good use of that in planning the work strength and using IT for Job status and easing the process to the least time and efforts.

And it was successfully ended in agreement for that it will benefit about 20,000 employees in this state and lead the Civil Service toward a better future.

On behalf of those who work for the States Civil Service, here I put forth our thanks and gratitude to the authorities of JICA and K-TOP for what they provided.

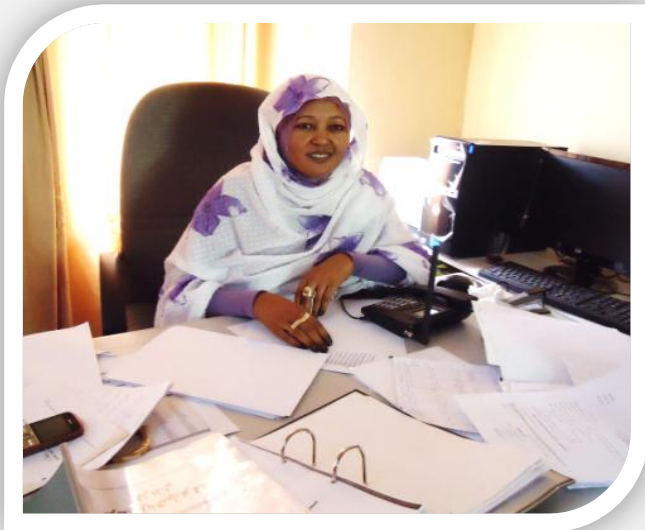


IT equipment and all materials for Civil Service database



CUDBAS Approach in Kassala State

CUDBAS means **C**urriculum **D**evelopment **B**ased on Vocational **A**bility **S**tructure (= a method for human resource development planning based on the participatory analysis of the necessary abilities (competencies) to perform the job most effectively) to identify necessary abilities for the job and needs for training practices. The project conducted CUDBAS workshops throughout all five clusters to develop suitable training programme. Below is a comment from one participant of CUDBAS workshop conducted in Planning Cluster.



Ms. Amani Head of Budget unit of the Developing planning and Economic Department

CUDBAS is one of the important workshops we conducted through K-TOP project in planning cluster.

We conduct the CUDBAS Workshop in our department under the auspices of K-TOP and the participators were from the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit and some members from the other sections.

Using the CUDBAS we together with K-TOP team analyzed the necessary abilities of the staff member of Monitoring and Evaluation Unit in the Developing Planning and Economic department and after that also they evaluated the current level and identified the weakest abilities and the needed practically training.

So the workshop was successful and as K-TOP team leader said that after the result of this workshop we will go to start our necessary training in practice and we will put all our efforts together with project team to solve our work problems in this department.



CUDBAS Workshop in General Directorate of Economic Planning and Development

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